

**CHEIRACANTHIUM CANARIENSE WUNDERLICH, 1987  
IN TURKEY (ARANAEAE: MITURGIDAE)**Hisham K. El-Hennawy <sup>1</sup>

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**ABSTRACT:** *Cheiracanthium canariense* Wunderlich, 1987 is recorded from Bala, Turkey for the first time. *C. canariense* was only known from its type locality, Canary Islands and Egypt. Pictures of a male and female specimen, their genitalia, their measurements and leg spination pattern are presented together with a distribution map of *C. canariense* in the world.

**KEY WORDS:** Aranaeae, spider, Miturgidae, *Cheiracanthium*, Turkey.

**TÜRKİYE'DE CHEIRACANTHIUM CANARIENSE  
WUNDERLICH, 1987 (ARANAEAE: MITURGIDAE)**

**ÖZET:** Bu çalışma ile *Cheiracanthium canariense* Wunderlich, 1987 türü Türkiye'den ilk defa Bala'dan kaydedilmiştir. *C. canariense* önceden sadece tip lokalitesi olan Kanarya adaları ve Mısır'dan biliniyordu. Çalışmada, bir erkek ve bir dişi bireyin resimleri, genitaliyaları, vücut ölçümleri, bacak dikenlenme düzenleri, *C. canariense*'nin dünyadaki yayılış haritası ile birlikte sunulmuştur.

**ANAHTAR KELİMELER:** Aranaeae, Örümcek, Miturgidae, *Cheiracanthium*, Türkiye.

**INTRODUCTION**

Among 165 species and 1 subspecies of genus *Cheiracanthium* C.L. Koch, 1839 (Family Miturgidae) described and distributed all over the world (Platnick 2008), there are only six *Cheiracanthium* species recorded from Turkey until now (Topçu et al. 2005, 2007). They are: *C. elegans* Thorell, 1875; *C. erraticum* (Walckenaer, 1802); *C. mildei* L. Koch, 1864; *C. pelasgicum* (C. L. Koch, 1837); *C. pennyi* O. P.-Cambridge, 1873 and *C. punctorium* (Villers, 1789).

*Cheiracanthium canariense* Wunderlich, 1987 was known only from its type locality, Canary Islands, until 2002 when it was recorded from northern Sinai, Egypt (El-Hennawy 2002) and this record was confirmed from two Egyptian protected areas on the Mediterranean Sea, i.e. Burullus and Zaranik (N. Sinai) (El-Hennawy 2005).

The examination of unidentified material of genus *Cheiracanthium* deposited in The Natural History Museum of London, U.K. (BMNH) revealed that there are four adult specimens of this species collected from Turkey (Ankara, Bala) on 1959.

A male and female specimen of this species and their genitalia were photographed and partly described. This record widens the distribution

map of *C. canariense* and adds another species to the Turkish araneofauna.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The examined material is deposited in The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom. Measurements of cephalothorax, abdomen, and legs are given. The leg spination pattern is given due to the format and standard abbreviations of morphological terms used in Platnick & Shadab (1975). The distribution map of *C. canariense* is adopted from Maplandia.com, Google maps world gazetteer (Fig. 1).

Abbreviations used: AL = abdomen length; BMNH = The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom; CL = carapace length; CW = carapace width; D = dorsal; P = prolateral; R = retrolateral; TL = total length; V = ventral. All measurements are in millimetres.

## RESULTS

### *Cheiracanthium canariense* Wunderlich, 1987 Figs. 2-8

**Material examined.** Turkey, Ankara, Bala ( $39^{\circ}33'14''N$ ,  $33^{\circ}07'16''E$ ), 2♂♂, 2♀♀ *Cheiracanthium* sp., May 1959, Coll. E.S. Braon (Deposited in BMNH).

The examined specimens are similar to the description of Wunderlich (1987). The body and legs are yellow. ♂ (Fig. 2): TL 7.616, CL 3.944, CW 2.992, AL 4.76. ♀ (Fig. 3): TL 9.112, CL 4.08, CW 2.992, AL 5.984. Legs and pedipalps are covered by long hairs. Legs: ♂ I-IV-II-III, ♀ IV-I-II-III; measurements (Tables 1, 2); spination of legs (only surfaces bearing spines are listed): ♂: Tibiae: I, II: V 0-2-0; III, IV: P 0-0-1, R 0-0-1; IV: V 1-1-0. Metatarsi: I: V 1-0-0; II: V 2-0-2; III, IV: D 0-2-2, V 2-2-2. ♀: Tibiae: I: V 1-2-2; III, IV: P 0-0-1, R 0-0-1. Metatarsi: I, II: V 2-0-0; III: D 0-2-2, V 2-2-2; IV: D 0-2-2-2, V 1-2-2.

Leg	Femur	Patella	Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total
I	5.168	1.632	5.168	5.44	2.312	19.72
II	3.808	1.36	3.536	3.808	0.952	13.464
III	2.72	1.224	2.312	3.128	0.952	10.336
IV	4.76	1.36	3.808	4.896	1.224	16.048

Tab. 1. Leg measurements (mm) of the male.

Leg	Femur	Patella	Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total
I	3.944	1.36	3.944	3.06	1.904	11.81
II	2.992	1.36	2.448	2.72	1.088	10.608
III	2.448	1.02	1.632	2.312	0.952	8.364
IV	3.808	1.428	2.856	3.672	0.952	12.716

Tab. 2. Leg measurements (mm) of the female.

The male palpal organ is shown in **Figures 4** and **5**.  
The female epigynum and vulvae are shown in **Figures 6-8**.

Note. The specimens of Bala, Turkey are bigger in size than those of Zaranik, N. Sinai and Egypt. The total length of a male from Bala is 7.616 mm while it is 3.128 for a male from Zaranik. The Turkish specimens are in the range mentioned by Wunderlich (1987), i.e. ♂ 5.3-9 and ♀ 8-9 mm.

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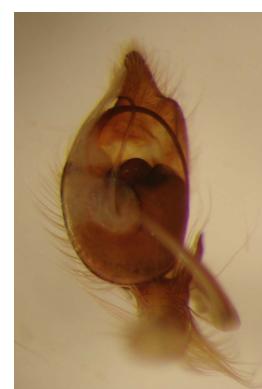
**Fig. 1.** Distribution map of *Cheiracanthium canariense* Wunderlich, 1987 in the world. **1.** Canary Islands (type locality). **2.** Egypt. **3.** Turkey, Bala (**new record**).



**Fig. 2.** *Cheiracanthium canariense*, ♂ habitus, dorsal view (Scale bar: 1 mm).

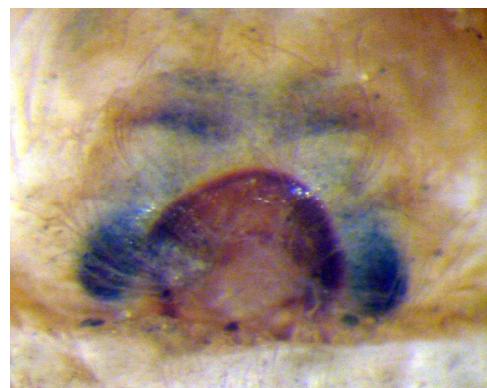


**Fig. 3.** *Cheiracanthium canariense*, ♀ habitus, dorsal view (Scale bar: 1 mm).



**Figs. 4-5.** *Cheiracanthium canariense*, ♂ left palpal organ.

4. Retrolateral view (left). 5. Ventral view (right).



**Fig. 6.**



**Fig. 7.**



**Fig. 8.**

**Figs. 6-8.** *Cheiracanthium canariense*, ♀. **6.** Epigynum, ventral view. **7.** Vulvae, ventral view. **8.** Vulvae, dorsal view.